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I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on October 19, 2001.

Sandra Stocklinski

Sandra Stocklinski

Name of Person signing Certificate

Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Yuji AKISHIBA)

Application No.: 09/974,728)

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: October 10, 2001)

Examiner: Unassigned

For: NON-CONTACT TYPE PROFILE MEASURING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

October 19, 2001

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Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law

Information Disclosure Statement

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/974,728

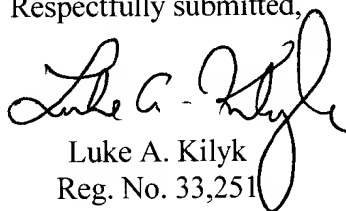
Page 2

regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925 and please consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: PTO-1449, w/two (2) Documents



FORM PTO-1449 (REV 7-80)	Atty. Docket No. 3140-008	Application No. 09/974,728
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	APPLICANT: Yuji AKISHIBA	
	Filing Date: October 10, 2001	Group Art Unit: Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE
	5,270,794	12/14/93	Tsuji et al.	356	371	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
59-61704	4/9/84	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.